

A shortened statutory period for response of three (3) months was set for response to the Office Action. Accordingly, a Petition for a three-month extension of time and check no. 5912 appropriate in amount to cover the corresponding fee are also enclosed.

New independent claims 30 and 37, have been added, bringing to five (5) the total number of independent claims under examination (comprising claims 1, 13, 20, 30 and 37). Also, new dependent claims 31-36, and 38-41 have been added. Accordingly, check no. 5912 is also appropriate in amount to cover the corresponding fee for these additional claims.

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

Version of Amendments with Markings to Show Changes Made.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 2, at line 1, please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/374,336, now U.S. Patent No. 6,280,050, filed August 13, 1999, entitled "FLEXIBLE FLASHLIGHT EXTENSION," which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety, including but not limited to those portions that specifically appear hereinafter.